

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1896.

LOCAL NEWS.-The City and Suburban News Buceau of the United Paris and New York Associated Paris is at 21 to 29 Ann street. All information and documents for public use instantly disseminated to the press of the whole country.

#### Europe and Cuba.

The Rome correspondent of the London Chronicle has now followed the lead of the Paris correspondent of the Times in conjectures upon the attitude of other European powers toward Spain, in the event of a war between that country and ours. While the Parls news writer had certain Governments already lined up with Mr. CLEVELAND in his war upon the Cameron resolution, the Rome correspondent modestly contents bimself with averring that Spain has questioned other powers and received certain very guarded replies.

The interference of European powers to tell us what we may do and what we may not do in regard to the recognition of the independence of countries here, that have thrown off a foreign yoke, would be a wholly novel experience. It is quite needless to say what the result would be of such an attempt; but we may fairly note that the discussion of its possibility, preposterous as this discussion is, follows close upon the belligerent attitude of the Administration toward the Senate Committee.

Several months ago it was said that Prime Minister CANOVAS had sounded various courts of Europe with a view to ascertaining what Spain might count upon from them in case of hostilities with the United States; and it was further said that our Minister at Madrid got wind of the proceedings and objected to them at once.

Whether the present story is merely revival of the earlier one, or whether Spain has recently made inquiries similar to those imputed to her, there is not now the remotest possibility of a European combination to help her crush Cuba, which, indeed, would be as repugnant to American views and policy as the Holy Alliance of an earlier day. Such wild talk as there may be at this time comes while interest has been excited in Mr. CLEVELAND's forestalling of the coming debate in Congress on the Cameron resolution by publicly denouncing it through Mr. OLNEY. But there is nothing at all to be apprehended in the attitude of the European powers, and whatever that duty toward Cuba and Spain.

#### The Cleveland Mediation Project.

"There has been a report in Washington that Prime Minister Canovas had accepted or would accept a proposal from the Cleveland Administration to mediate in Cuba upon terms which Spain would dictate.

The terms were said to couple a reciprocity treaty, relating chiefly to Cuban products, with a promise of pardon to such rebels as may lay down their arms, and of reforms which the United States would guarantee. This alleged plan seems to take the form, to some extent, of commiseration on Spain's part for the commercial losses which our ountry has suffered on account of the war in Cuba, this consideration having moved Spain to do something for us.

Mr. CLEVELAND'S recent message declared that he had intimated to Spain that the United States would give a pledge to the insurgents, if, they would accept it, they are stirred to expression when that home rule as promised by any one speaks out for Cuba. They Spain should be carried out. He added that "while no definite response to this intimation has yet been received from the Spanish Government, it is believed to be Gen. GRANT once remonstrated; they stand not altogether unwelcome." The Washington rumor was that the definite reply of | tend to sympathize with Cuba, they do all Prime Minister CANOVAS had at length | they can to uphold the enemy of Cuba, communication has yet been received.

a transaction, and quite as important to us paign of murder and desolation. Thus they as the attitude of Spain is the attitude of the patriots. If, with acknowledged inde- the freedom of their country. pendence almost in their grasp, they refuse to sacrifice it for a measure of home rule try's sympathies will be as strong for them their path.

Congress has never authorized Mr. CLEVE-LAND to make the "intimation" in question. Its resolution, passed at the last session, declared that he ought to offer the friendly offices of the United States to Spain " for the recognition of the independence of Cuba.' But instead of doing this, he offered them for continuing the dependence of Cuba, on the promise of sundry reforms.

It is high time that Congress should deal with the Cuban question in its own way lest, instead of the service it would do the patriots, our Government should virtually inflict on them an injury.

# The Powers, the Porte, and Cuba.

It would be queer if the powers of Europe were to be unhappy in case we should affirm our right to acknowlthe same time, these powers make to destroy the independence of Turkey. A half dozen of the powers have banded totrolling his revenues, abrogating his authority, and reducing him to vassalage. The powers have lost their patience with the Grand Turk, and have given him a warning, which, as we are led to believe by the despatches from Constantinople, is not to be despised.

While viewing the manœuvres of the powers in Turkey at this time, and the manner in which they assert their right to poach upon the Sultan's preserves, we cannot say why any of them should be troubled over | tration of the United States Bank.' Benator CAMERON'S resolution, which is but an assertion of a lawful right of this Government in the case of Cuba. It seems to be the design of the powers to in- the noisiest but by no means the least manpose to put a single gun at the back of his | produced are literature; almost all of them resolution. The powers threaten to coerce; are indispensable materials for future his CAMERON makes no threat at all.

adoption of coercive measures by the badness of the Turkish Government. Truly, the Government, as administered by the Sul-It is not worse, not more oppressive or more corrupt, than the colonial Government of Cuba as administered by Spain. The bringing new light to bear upon American | Ireland where sulphuric ether was habitu-Turks have butchered thousands of historical study, institutional, constitution-Armenians; the Spaniards have butch- al, biographical, financial, social, a thorough ered thousands of Cubans. The Turks have ravaged Armenia; the Spaniards. Cuba. Turkey is decrepit; so is Spain The best of the provinces that formerly be longed to Turkey have broken from he

rule; the great colonies that formerly were Spain's have done the same thing.

Now the ambassadors of the powers call upon the Sultan, making heavy demands and wearing their swords in his presence; now Senator CAMERON rises in his place, unarmed, bearing in his hand a joint resolution in two sections, both comprised in five or six lines, one of the sections acknowledging the independence of Cuba and the other providing that this Government shall "use its friendly offices with the Spanish Government to bring to a close the war between Spain and Cuba."

Why in the world should Senator HALE get excited whenever he hears the words of this pacific resolution in two tranquillizing sections? Why should any one of the powers of Europe regard it as other than a rightful manifestation of States toward Cuba and toward Spain? We have never had reason to believe that any power in Europe besides Spain cares a rap for the Cuban resolution, and even Spain is much less troubled about it than are Spain's allies in the Government of the United States.

Contrast the rough methods of the powers in the case of Turkey, the savage, with the sedative policy of Senator CAM-ERON, in the case of Spain, the savage! 'Tis as the whirlwind to the gentle airs of a summer morn.

Yes, indeed, Spain is excitable, but no nore so than Turkey. The Spaniards might defy the Americans as the Turks the powers. ALFONSO XIII. has a large army, but it is weak in comparison with that of ABDUL HAMID II. The powers are probably strong enough to coerce the Sultan, despite his obstinacy. We do not see why the Government of the United States need to suffer alarm in affirming its right to acknowledge Cuban independence, or in asking Spain to accept its friendly offices in her own interest.

Surely this Government ought not to be less willing to speak a kindly word for suffering Cuba than are the powers of Europe to take forcible means for ending the misrule and the disorder that exist in Turkey.

#### No More Sham.

Many of the enemies of Cuban freedom in Congress and in the press, who oppose every measure that might promote the liberation of Cubs, often take the trouble to tell us of their great sympathy with the suffering people of Cuba. They utter lamentations over Cuba's woes; they sometimes regret Spain's conduct in Cuba; attitude, we may look to Congress to do its they are pained by the bloodshed there; they are saddened when they read of Spanish ravages there; they admit that WEYLER'S ways are harsh; they would like to see peace in Cuba; they condole with the unhappy victims of Spanish ferocity. Even Senator HALE of Maine has several times notified the Senate that he is in a sympathetic state of mind when he considers the case of Cuba.

It is sham sympathy of which these people tell. It is crocodile tears, it is hypocrisy which they put on exhibition.

For they stand out against every proposition that contains anything favorable to Cuba. They are opposed to every resolution introduced into Congress that seems to hold out any promise for Cuba. They would not consent that Cuban belligerency should be recognized in the early part of this year; they will not consent, at the end of the year, that Cuban independence shall be acknowledged; they do their best to prevent debate on the Cuban question; would not for the world give offence to Spain; they do not think it proper for this Government to remonstrate with Spain, as in mortal terror of Spain. While they prepack up the monstrous WEYLER in his carr discourage the brave Cubans, fighting for

It would be better and more honorable for these men to refrain from any further exunder the odious yoke of Spain, our coun. | pression of their sham sympathy for Cuba. Let them boldly give utterance to their as ever, and we shall place no hindrance in desire for the perpetuation of Spanish domination in Cuba, for the success of the Spanish arms, for the crushing of the Cuban insurgents, for the extinguishment of liberty, for the triumph of the military butcher

sent to Cuba by Spain. How many members of the Senate entertain this desire? How many Representatives in the House? Let such members speak out loudly, and put themselves upon record as soon as Congress reassembles. If they shall avoid all sham and act as we have suggested, we may hope for the speedy passage of the just and proper Senate resolutions providing for the acknowledgment of Cuban independence.

# The American Historical Association.

The annual meeting of the American Historical Association will begin at Columbia University this morning, and continue for edge the independence of Cuba, while, at the two following days. With a few exceptions the papers to be read deal with Ameriaffirmation that it is within their right can subjects. If they carry out the promise of their titles they will be of much interest and value. As specimens, may be mengether for the purpose of disciplining the tioned: "Know-Nothingism in Massachu-Sultan, compelling him to change in many setts," "The Anti-Rent Episode in the State respects his system of government, con- of New York," "The Use of History Made by the Framers of the Constitution," Schemes for Episcopal Control in the Colonies," "Some Economic Aspects of Early American Politics," and "The Influence of the American Revolution on England's Government of Her Colonies." Miss HASKELL of Radeliffe College, an institution to one of whose scholars we are indebted for an able study of the powers of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, will read a paper on "LANGDON CHEVES and His Adminis-

The study of American history and institutions, and the production of learned and accurate monographs thereupon, are far from terfere in Turkish affairs under the cover of | ifestations of American acuteness, industry, their artillery; Mr. CAMERON does not pro- and scholarship. Some of the works so torians. Some of the universities are pub-The nowers think they are justified in the lishing series of such monographs. Many professors and many unattached but by no means isolated scholars are giving their devising methods for suppressing its use as time to American studies. Unpretentiously tan, is bad; it is oppressive and corrupt; but | a body of work of high and solid quality is so produced. The colleges, the historical societies, the great libraries are constantly ransacking of details and episodes. While many of the new contributions are intended

accounts of the booksellers will show that books of American history and biography are coming to be in great request. In too many of the little school histories there is but a tedious, bare narrative of apparently unconnected facts, and there is a profitless rigmarole of dates and names; but when the sequence of cause and effect is not obscured, and form and life are given to the actors and the development of events and institutions is traced, the story of the United States becomes, as it should become, the most fascinating as it is the most important of histories to Americans; and whatever in historical inquiry and writing promotes accuracy, adds detail, and clears up obscurity, increases the worth and the charm of the work. The truth, without disguise or sentimentality, should be the object sought; and it must be admitted that the truth about past events is often as hard to find as the friendly disposition of the United if it were in a Spanish despatch from Cuba. This notable movement in American historical study may be properly classed as in part a phase, in part a cause, of the great

## American Clothes and Principles.

revival of American patriotism.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Cincin nati Commercial-Tribune, communicates the information that the suit of clother which Major McKINLEY is to wear on the day of his inauguration as President of these United States will be of American weave, cut, and make. The cloth is to be woven of American wool by a woollen manufacturing company of this State; and the 'inauguration suit" will have the additional merit and distinction of being unique, as only enough cloth to make it will be woven and finished.

So Major McKINLEY will be able to appear at Washington, March 4, in a good American suit, and a manly and an interesting figure he will be in it, if the Cleveland artist, to whom the fine work of cutting it out is to be given, does his duty and doesn't transgress the lines of architectural beauty. It would have been safer to trust the job to the constructive genius of one of our New York tailors, but doubtless Major McKin-LEY determined to be thoroughly consistent in his encouragement of home industries, even at the expense of some little sacrifice of symmetry. It matters very little, after all, where and of what cloth an American gets his clothes, provided he pays for them, although if they are of imported materials, those materials ought to be made to pay their proportionate contribution to the expenses of the Government, whether under a tariff specifically for protection with sufficient revenue, or for revenue with sufficient protection. Neither in his clothes nor his messages will Major McKINLEY give any support to the fallacious and unscientific notion of free wool, which has got a lodgement in the present preposterous tariff.

It may be said that Major McKinley's clothes are of no overpowering interest to anybody, and least of all to him, but this inauguration suit is, we hope and believe, symbolical, and meant to be so, of a thoroughly American policy in all matters, domestic and foreign, and not merely in regard to home manufactures. Such a policy the country expects from Major McKINLEY. Toward his own countrymen and their institutions he will demean himself as an American and not as a sort of pig-headed Tory only bent upon thwarting them and evincing his superiority to them. Toward foreign countries which, like Cuba and the Hawaiian Islands, need or are needed by the United States, his attitude will be that of an alert and a sympathetic American, who feels with and not apart from his countrymen, and who regards the prosperity and grandeur of the United States and the approval of the great body of Americans as of infinitely more moment than the menaces or the wishes of any foreign powers whose selfish interests may be injured or whose hatred of the United States may be roused,

by a wholly American policy. There is no higher officer upon earth than come; but it is now denied that any such Thus they give encouragement to Spain in an American President who never lays aside making war upon the Cubans; thus they his Americanism. That is the kind of President WILLIAM MCKINLEY is expected to be both by Americans and foreigners.

#### The Writing Down of Grover Cleveland.

The Springfield Republican's attempt to prove that the really strong and stiff personality in the present Administration is that of RICHARD OLNEY, and not that of GROVER CLEVELAND, is attracting a certain amount of attention.

The Mugwump argument, as we understand it, is that without OLNEY in the Cabinet, Mr. CLEVELAND's second term as President would have been a failure. Its record would have been one of absolute mediocrity; without a salient feature of foreign or domestic policy, except the sale of bonds to create the Cleveland surplus; four years of spineless inefficiency and inaction, marked off only by periodic excursions at the public expense on lighthouse tenders

in the selfish pursuit of sport. The curious fact is that those citizens who for twelve years have pretended to know most about Mr. CLEVELAND as a Man, and have talked and written most about him in his personal aspects, are those who have really understood least the fudividual himself and his characteristics. For twelve years they have lived and moved in a misty dream wherein the Hon. GROVER CLEVELAND was the central figure. They are now beginning to awaken.

The process of demolition has already begun, and the hands most active are those of the former idolaters. This was to be expcted sooner or later; but we had not supposed that it would begin so many weeks before the ceremonies of the fourth of

It is not our part to question the later Mugwump estimate of Mr. CLEVELAND'S comparative importance as a statesman. If the new Mugwump ideal of all that is thoughtful, dignified, and potent in American statesmanship is to be OLNEY and not CLEVELAND, we cannot help it. Sympathy may be excited for the discarded prophet, oozing straw at every joint. Sympathy may also go out toward the new object of Mugwump adulation, now about to suffer the pangs of unnatural distention; but Mr. OLNEY is merely encountering one of the ordinary risks of existence.

# The Latest New Intoxicant.

While the enemies of alcohol in its various forms are exhausting their ingenuity in an intoxicant, the ingenuity of people who crave this sort of stimulus is equally active in finding new means for gratifying their craving. We heard, long ago, of a town in ally imbibed as a substitute for whiskey; the morphine flend and the chloral flend are well known to the medical profession; and laudanum cocktails are a not infrequent

they are wasting their substance and ruining their health by its use.

This latest new intoxicant is described as being composed of cocaine, sugar of milk, magnesia, and menthol, or peppermint extract, and applied to the nostrils like tobacco snuff. It was first compounded by a physician as a remedy for catarrh, but, having been found to possess also exhilarating qualities, the use of it has spread to all classes of the population. One poor workingman is said to spend as much as \$5 per week upon it, and the town druggists cannot supply the demand for it. Among its victims are children of tender years, and hundreds of factory work people. Where it is consumed to excess, it produces sleepless ness, hysteria, and finally paralysis. An appeal to the Legislature is talked of to pass a law for suppressing the evil, but mean-

while it rages with great violence. Here is a new field for reformers and philanthropists to work in, as soon as they shall have succeeded in suppressing the use of alcoholic drinks. And by the time they have finished with cocaine spuff, something newer and more popular will have been invented, so that they need never be without occupation.

### Nonsense from a Historian.

hand this opinion on a great constitutional question: "The House, except in case of a declaration of

Mr. JOHN BACH MCMASTER delivers off-

ourse toward any foreign power." The House has no right or power "to pass

Congress, and concurrent action by twothirds majority in each house in case the President vetoes the bill or resolution. But if Mr. McMaster means that the Congress has no right to pass a law to force the President to take a certain course toward any foreign power, and that the House, except in a declaration of war, has no voice in

foreign affairs, he is talking hastily, wildly, and in a manner unbefitting a historian, or, indeed, any serious person whatsoever. The Congress, and not the President, has the right to regulate commerce with foreign nations. It has the power to stay all intercourse with another nation, to exclude the ships and the people of that nation, to prohibit importations of the products of that nation, and all this without any declaration of war. And Congress has the right to pass a law, under the power granted to it by clause 3 of section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution, forcing the President to take a certain course toward a foreign nation, and that course may be friendly or inimical in the extreme, according to the will or dis-

ble to impeachment. The Congress has even the right, under the Constitution, to permit a single State of the Union to enter into an agreement or compact with a foreign power, or to engage in war with a foreign power. In the enumeration of the powers inhibited to the several States, there is this qualification in several instances, "without the consent of Congress." Without the consent of Congress, observe, not without the consent of the President.

position of Congress itself. The President

must execute the law or render himself lia-

The Constitution thus emphatically an swers Mr. JOHN BACH MCMASTER'S asseveration with respect to the voice of the House in foreign affairs, and the right of Congress to pass a law to force the President to take a certain course toward any foreign power.

Were Spain to be successful in her war upon Cuba, it would be the first of her successes in any of the many wars she has waged against American countries in the nineteenth century. Some of the colonies which revolted against her rule in the early part of the century, and which she failed to subdue, were weaker than Cuba. But Spain never, at any past time, sent to this side of the sea an army as large as that with which she has for two years kille and carried desolation into their country.

Gen. C. H. T. COLLIS, our Commissioner of Public Works, did an extraordinary amount of valuable sightseeing in his recent visit to London and Paris. We advise every citizen of this town to read carefully and preserve for future reference the description of the public works of these two great capitals which Gen. Collis has written in detail for us and which we print on another page to-day. He tells, compactly and vividly, of the pavements, street cleaning, street lighting, water supply, street transportation, sewerage, and the other great branches of the municipal service in the cities named, and compares them with the similar arrangements here.

Gen. Collis finds that the matter of street paving is still a great problem. There is a continual complaint of the slipperiness of the asphalt pavement, but in London, where it is mostly used, the authorities say that the horses seem to be getting accustomed to it. The asphalt, which in London costs \$7.38 a square yard to lay and maintain for fifteen years, is contracted for here at \$4.50 a square yard. Wooden pavements are the rule in Paris, but there is beginning to be great objection to them there as breeders of bad health by their retention of disease germs and because of their tendency to contract and expand in changing, temperatures. Gen. Collis thinks that our new pavements are better laid than those in Paris, but that we are a long way behind Paris in the matter of repairing and maintenance. For the present year of 1896 the sum of nearly three million dollars was appropriated in Paris for such repairs, an amount very much greater than that expended here. As regards illumination, Gen. Collis finds that while the streets of Paris are lighted very brilliantly in the populated and show parts of the town, they are not lighted elsewhere, and that while the people of Paris pay \$2.04 per thousand cubic feet for their gas, we get the same amount here for \$1.25. In their water supply both Paris and London are not nearly so well off as New York, the water being furnished by private corporations and doled out in rather meagre quantities. We mention these matters as hints, simply, of the importance of Gen. Collis's observations and comparisons. very interesting suggestion that the lower part of the Central Park, between Fifth and Eighth avenues and Fifty-ninth and Sixty-second streets, might be added to the broad open space

Gen. Contrs concludes his article with the which aiready adjoins it on the southern side, so that a grand plaza would be formed similar to the Place de la Concorde, in Paris, or Tra-faigar square in London. He thinks that, without detracting at all from its character as a this territory might easily be made a grand display ground, where might be located the future colleges, inuscums, and libraries of the city, and possibly, in time, the City Hall and other public buildings.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Trotter and Pacer, makes THE SUN'S recent condemna tion of such wretched names for trotting horses as Princeer the occasion for saying that Princeer is an infinite sight better than 'Get There Wilkes, 'Ah There,' 'Ancient Order Boy,' and 'Daniel the Prophet,' We think that our contemporary is mistaken in this opinion, and it surely misses the point of our criticism. Princeer and the like abominable because they exhibit on mainly for scholars, there are few of them that are not good for popular reading; and the command the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command that in the records of the public libraries and the command the command that it is in the records of the public libraries and the command the co

never by any possibility acceptable to people whose cultivation is maintained at the standard of the common school. Princeer has no credentials in history or philology. "Get There Wilkes," and "Ah There," however, are only impeachable for taste, concerning which THE SUN never undertakes to dictate. Each is good American slang, and lively at that. "Ancient Order Boy" and "Daniel the Prophet" suggest that most remarkable variety of nomenclature applied to any class of creatures, that is, the names of British greyhounds. Those animals,

Mr. JOSEPH H. CHOATE stands at an elevation so high that the effort of a mean and mailclous gang of intriguing politicians to drag him down to their low level, was an insuit to his dignity, which all his true friends have resented with indignation. We congratulate him that he has escaped from such association. That is infinitely better for him than to be made Senator as a consequence of the mischievous ac-tivity of subterranean intriguers, working solely for selfish ends of their own.

together with the British borses, are named by

the thousands, but never one bears a senseless

title like Princeer. The Princeer class should go.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Richmond Times, which on political questions is usually one of the sanest newspapers in the South, has got the currency mania in its acutest form. It demands the repeal of the requirement of United States bonds as a basis of bank currency, because "when the currency is based upon such funds it all goes to the cities." City ple, who do business with checks, do not need much currency, but the country people need a great deal. We will let the Times explain its method for obtaining a currency which will not go to the city, but will stay in the country:

"The real reason why the requirement of nations bonds at the back of the currency should be repealed is that when it is so backed, though issued by a bank a law" of any sort. To pass a law requires the concurrent action of both houses of in a mountain backwoods, it is just as good in New York and Chicago as any, and that being so the com-mercial centres will withdraw it from the country people to themselves. That is the reason the people in the country should be permitted to have banks to issue notes that are not so backed that they will be good all over the Union. They require that their bank notes shall not be known in New York and Chicago. and then they will stay among the people for whose use they are issued, and furnish men who now have no currency with what they need."

The Richmond Times, therefore, longs for money which is not good enough to be receivable in the regular money marts, but which is so poor and mistrusted that it will only go among its friends, that is, in the district of its production. That sort of money can be had without a day's wait. The Richmond Times will realize its ideal if it prints a lot of notes with the inscription, "Good for One Pound of Sugar," or "One Ham," and se on; and for the communities that like that sort of money it will be the sort of money they like, It will never leave them, and they can have all they want of it. We must warn them though that it will be well to equip themselves with some ordinary money when they want to buy supplies from cities that are in the habit of exchanging goods for a solid kind of cash.

They were elected in the first year of the war and the charter under which they serve contains some of the test features of the Constitu

Our puissant never-say-die Administration contemporary, the Memphis Commercial-Appeal, proves how dangerous it is to deal apologetically with the statement that the CLEVELAND bond money was required for greenback redemption only. It confesses, perhaps inadvertently, that " of course some of the money borrowed was used to discharge the debis of the Government."

tion of the United States.

We doubt if there is left a single Mugwumpish organ in the country which does not know that Mr. CLEVELAND'S official declaration of one year ago this December, that "nothing could be further from the truth than the allegation that these bonds had been issued to sup ply insufficient revenue," was false. Reason is reasserting itself.

The commuters on the Central Railroad of New Jersey might be in better business than in forcibly supporting one of their number in a position which cannot be defended either in law or morals. A railroad company has the right to contract for the performance of the express business over its line, and having so contracted, it is its duty to maintain the privilege to the contractor. The mere purchase of a passenger ticket, especially at a reduced rate of fare, gives the purchaser no right to run an express business over the road on his own acount any more than it does to run a news business or to sell packages of candy in the cars. Let us have law and order and common sense among the Jersey commuters, who are in most respects an uncommonly sensible crowd.

# Inviting a Tyranny of Art.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUS-Sir: I note one omission in the proposed charter of the Greater New York. In some of the foreign cities there is a committee or commission on public beauty, which has control of the artistic side of both public and individual buildings. For example, if on a street devoted to residences ror example, if on a street devoted to residences some person wished to build a stable or a lean-to, or anything tending to disfigure the beauty of the street or disfrict, it could not be done without the consort of this supervising authority. If such a board of control were in existence, then, a great improvement Toe beauty of the supervision and the supervision and the supervision are supervised by the supervision and the supervision are supervised by the supervision and the supervision are supervised as a supervision and the supervision are supervised by the supervised by the supervision are supervised by the supervision and the supervision are supervised by the supe would begin.

Too many times are streets disfigured by lack of taste, greed, revenue, or from some such caused. This would be checked in a great measure under control of such an authority.

T. V. DE PESTOPPEY.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.

# Tips and Club Watters.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUX-Sir: We have read much of late on the subject of tipping servants. Cannot something be said on behalf of white waiters, who do not receive tips, but who are supposed to receive a money present at Christmas, but, as a matter of famoney present at Christmas, but, as a matter of faci-do not? The head waiter and captains, so-called, almost always receive individual pilts before Christ-mas, but the side waiter, the man who does the work and who is trying to support a family by working until 2 o'clock every other morning for 835 or 840 a month, has to wait one to three morning for 835 or 840 a month, has to wait one to three morning for 835 or 840 a month, has to wait one to three morning for 835 or 840 a month, has to wait one to three morning for 835 or 840 a month for the horidays, instead of holding it until 8t. Patrick's Day?

# Et Tu Brute!

From the Boston Hernil (Mugueump), The Choate fight would be more interesting if is

The Century for January is one of the best numbers of that magazine ever issued. From begin-ning to end it is unusually interesting; and its interest is of a high quality. Gen. Horace Porter, Cap Mahan and Dr. Weir Mitchell are the best-known contributors, but the contributions by writers less famous than these are not less interesting and valu-able.

IS THE PRESIDENT ABSOLUTES

The Otney Dectrine and the Constitution TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : Richard Olney, Secretary of State, in a quasi-official ut-terance, asserts the doctrine that the President has the exclusive authority to recognize, or to refuse to recognize the independence of a revolting State. In this he is sustained by Mr. Coudert, Mr. Edmunds, and others who lay claims to learning in the law, and especially in that branch of the law which deals with constitutions. They base their argument upon the fact that the Constitution declares that "He shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers:" which action, according to their enstruction, constitutes a recognition of an independent Government, William H. Seward as Secretary of State, writing to Mr. Adams in England in 1861 declares that "To recognize the independence of a new State, and so favor, possibly determine, its admission into the family of nations, is the highest possible exercise of sovereign power." This being true, did the American people, jealous of their prerogatives, invest the President with this high sovereign power? It is interesting to note what the Constitution,

which is supposed to be silent upon this subject, has to say in respect to the powers of Congress.

in the presence of questions involving the sov-

ereignty of the nation, and it will be found that a fair interpretation vests this power, not in the President, but in the Government of the United States, as distinct from its various departments, and that the Congress has the exclusive power of legislation in respect to the exercise of this power. By subdivision 18 of section 8 of Arti-cle I., the Congress is declared to have power " to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into effect the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof." Obviously there were understood to be powers vested in "the Government of the United States," as distinguished from those delegated to the Congress, to the President, to the President and Senate, or other departments. What were those powers? We find the key to the solution of this question in the tenth article of the first amendments submitted to the people by the First Congress under the Constitution, which declares that "the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively,

or to the people." The powers that were "prohibited to the States," and which were not "reserved to the States respectively or to the people," must then have been the powers of sovereignty which inhered in the States as independent nations, but which it was necessary to surrender on entering the sisterhood of States for the purpose of forming a more perfect Union," and these were the "powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States."

What were the powers prohibited by the Constitution to the States? They are enumerated. and they all relate to the exercise of sovereignty. Section 10 of Article I. says that "No State shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin

supplies from cities that are in the habit of exchanging goods for a solid kind of cash.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment appropriated on Monday the great sum of \$1,558,000 for the private charitable institutions of this city. Add to this amount the expenditures for charity by the public institutions of this city. Add to this amount the expenditures for charity by the public institutions of this city. Add to this amount the expenditures for charity by the public institutions of the hundreds of churches and church parlshes, and by many thousands of individuals, and how wast the aggregate becomes! Monday's appropriations alone amount to an average of nearly one dollar a head of the population, and this average is greatly increased by the further and much more enormous individual dispensations of money for charity. In total it ought to be enough to support in luxury every destitute person in town.

The Cleveland Leader asks a few questions of increast:

"If a resolution should be adopted declaring that the republic of Caba existed, and the President were willing to ace on that resolution, where should omeial notice of its adoption be sent?"

Send it to Cubitas, province of Puerto Principe, Cuba.

"To whom should the message of good cheer be addressed!"

Address it to President Cisnkroa. It will reach him as expeditiously as it would if addressed to Captain-General Weyllen.

"Hy what route should the message be forwarded"

It may safely be forwarded by despatch messenger via Havana, or by the like to Nuevina, which is situated near the inland headquarters of the revolutionary Government.

"When were the official of the provincing and the first year of the war, and the chairs are the inland headquarters of the revolutionary Government.

"When were the official of the provincing and the first year of the war, and the chair ere the manual headquarters of the revolutionary Government.

"When were the official of the Cuba republic elected, and under what articles do they serve?"

They were elected in the first y

JAMESTOWN, N. Y., Dec. 29.

FIRST CHEMIST OF THE WORLD," Prof. Mendeleveff of Russia and His Re-

markable Smakeless Powder, To the Entrop of The Sun-Sir: I always read with great interest the articles in Tue Ses relating to the contest still going on between guns and armament.
I do not betwee that mar of your readers know that
Prof. MendeleyeT, the discoverer of pyro collodion, referred to on your editorial page today, was also the maker of the Mendeleyeff tables, who, in a spirit of scientific prophecy, left blank spaces for three new chemical substances to be discovered. Argon, discov. ered by Lord Rayleigh, and another element the name

of which I do not recall have already been discovered and fill two of these vacant places. I called upon Frof. Mendeleyeff last spring to comnunicate an invitation for him to attend the Princeton sesquicentennial celebration and to receive an

Prof. Mendeleveff expressed the hope that his smoke less powder would be so effective and dewould be recognized as a substantial contribution to science in the way of a peacemaker. The Professor was unable to accept Princeton's in vitation to come to America because he was under engagement to the Finance Minister of Russia to give his entire time to the study and determination of a scientific tariff upon the imports of iron and steel

sufficiently high to protect their growing industries and yet not to keep out from Russia the improvements made by the rest of the world in perfecting the use of iron and steel in armament and machinery. This employment of the first chemist, of the world o formulate the terms of a scientific tariff gives us an example which even Mr. Wilson or Mr. McKinley night follow to advantage. 120 Broadway, Dec. 28.

# A Question Answered.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Is the bi-partisan commission idea in the proposed charter of the Greater New York a good one, in your judgment? Do you also favor the increase in policemen's Should there not be some limit to the free use of

the sidewalks by stands of all kinds and other nui sances? BROOKLYN, Dec. 29.

#### The Food of the Theologues. To the Epiton of the Sux-Sir: I cannot refrain

from answering the letter of H. Bauman, published yesterday. This letter proves nothing at all, "Cleri-cus" objects to the food as served at the present time, not in years past. If Mr. Bauman had taken the trouble to visit the seminary table before writing his letter he would have admitted the truth of the letter It is known by all that the food served in these institutions is not what it should be, and this place is

o foil the truth? And can it possibly be art? It would seem to be so in this pine, be lean, "who is so kind and consider thing. And a student who dares, sipeal is Suspended. It the food is what it is at the scrutiny of the polatic? It bend also. Which take away every somblance and liberty, we must suffer in alleges of the institution." in the dark ages, in the period of there in the midst of civilization in york;

17 of Mr. Moody, slightly changed, so in the came to this seminary;

10 would lighten our darkness.

18. Exteriastic.

Jack Curry has arranged with Morris Jones of Red Oak, Ia. to train and drive Quees Alts, 2 055, next season. Mr. Jones aware her ions, gradual work the past season, which hardened her cords as that she took fast work with bardened her cords as that she

# He Hickly Beserves It.

From the Alongo Dutty Tribune.

May we venture to express the hope that the man who writes it Xinas will have a Xappy Xew Xoar?

PAR OF MUNICIPAL COUNCILMEN. The Salartes Suggested for Greater New York Legislators Are Too Small,

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The

proposed Greater New York charter, submitted

by the Sub-Committee on Draft, contains a

carefully considered and comprehensive scheme

for two local legislative bodies, to be known as

the Municipal Assembly, and composed of two houses, the upper house, or Council, with 37 with 104 members. Some objections have been interposed to this subdivision of legislative power, but it really revives the former system of city government when New York really had a charter, as it has not now; for originally the Common Council was composed of two separate boards, and its lineal political successor, the Board of Aldermen, had two also, the Aldermen and the Assistant Aldermen, until the latter were abolished in 1873. The members of latter were abolished in 1873. The members of both boards were elected by the voters directly, as it is proposed that the members of the Municipal Assembly, Assemblymen and Aldermen, shall be elected biennially within the territory included in the Greater New York.

The Commissioners, however, make no suggestion of compensation for the Municipal Councilmen other than is contained in the informal statement ascribed to one of them. That \$1,500 a year for the Assemblymen and \$1,000 for the Aldermen would probably be adequate. The Municipal Councilmen ot the future Greater New York will exercise legislative authority over a territory baving more than 3,000,000 inhabitants: a population larger than that of most American States, and a territory containing a larger amount of material wealth than any similar community of like population not a national capital in the world. A salary of \$1,000 a year for a legislator is less than \$20 a week. Even \$30 a week would be insufficient for men competent to be the lawmakers of the Greater New York in the upper house, or Council. The diffidence, temerity, and reluctance of constitution and charter makers in fixing the compensation of elective officers exercising lawmaking functions is well known. In this State the members of the Albany Legislature continue, under the amended Constitution. A proposition made in the Constitutional Convention of 1894 to raise this standard of pay was rejected as likely to imperil the acceptance of all the proposed amendments. The Governor of New York now receives a larger salary than was paid to any Governor previous to Mr. Tilden. By constitutional amendment, approved by the voters in 1874, the Governor as alary was increased from \$4,000 to \$10,000. The compensation of Supreme Court Judges has been raised to an amount sufficient to secure the best professional skill, and the executive officials of the city are liberally paid, more liberally than were many of their prodescensors. No injury has come, but great benefit has accordance with public septi both boards were elected by the voters directly, as it is proposed that the members of the Mu-

The Development of a European Power at Our Very Doors.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: There is a side to the Cuban war to which I have seen no public reference made so far. Slowly and gradually, but nevertheless surely, Spanish cunning and diplomacy, either by itself or upneld by some rich and strong ally, has built up at our very doors, nay, geographically speaking. within our territory, a power strong enough to maintain on an active war footing a standing army of nearly, if not over, 200,000 men. In addition to this she has there a well-disciplined militia over 100,000 strong. Here are 300,000 in all! Added to this, we should bear in mind are the marine force, to protect its coast and to embarrass any foe which it may become neces-

sary to keep out of landing distance. If this were the only danger threatening our If this were the only danger threatening our peace and welfare in the future we should, perhaps, be able to cope with it at a relatively small sacrifice. But is it to be supposed that a nation, complimentarily rated as a second-class power, in a chronic bankrupt condition, and threatened most seriously by social and political internal complications, a nation withous agriculture, commerce, or industry of any importance whatsoever, with its most vital resources sold or pledged to foreign capitalists and corporations, that such a nation could have attempted such an undertaking and successfully carried it out, unaided and under the sole guidance of its demoralized and corrupted official administration?

How are we to reconcile the fact of the aston-

How are we to reconcile the fact of the astonishingly quick mobilization, equipment, transportation, and accilimatization of such a large
body of men, thousands of miles away from
home, and the enormous sums of money that
have been and are disbursed, month after
month, with the present condition of Spain?

And is not this same nation increasing its war
preparations, openly buying or building menof-war in England and eisewhere, with a haste
and activity which are more than suggestive?

What interest has Spain, per sc, to maintain
its hold upon Cuba, when it is so well known
that as a colony for revenue only it has no value
to her, having been converted by misrule into a
costly luxury?

Spain by itself, with or without a revolutionary element in Cuba, can no longer afford to
own that island. She would have aircast given
it up or sold it to the insurgents if our Governreent had only made the request at the proper
time.

If with much less danger threatening us by How are we to reconcile the fact of the aston

rient had only made the request at the proper time.

If with much less danger threatening us by the Trench occupation of Mexico our Administration deemed it prindent to request their withdrawal and the French withdrew, and under much less plausible circumstances we warned England to abstain from encroaching on Venezucian territory and England yielded, is it not incredible that we should look with apparent indifference upon the turn Cuban affairs are taking?

Something more than the maintenance of the Spanish flag over Morro Castle seems at stake, and our statemen at Washington, Mr. Cleveland our statemen at Washington, Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Olivey in particular, who have so persistently acted contrary to the manifest opinion of the majority of our people, who desire the recognition of Cuban belligerency, should certainly explain their ideas upon the advantages or disadvantages of permitting the development of a strong European monarchy at our very doors.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.

our very doors. NEW YORK, Dec. 28.

#### Two Christmanes of the Crims. I rom the St. Louis Republic.

Two Christmases of the Crims.

From the St. Louis Republic.

Sheribyville. Ind., Dec. 25.—Eleven years ago last night John Crim went to his home in Flat Rock from the village store, where he had been spending the evening and watching his more fortunate neighbors purchase toys for their little ones, and informed his wife that he had made an effort to secure something for their three babies, but, as he did not have the money, the merchant had refused, and the little ones would have to do without. The good wife asked John not to grieve over his condition, saying that she had a few trinkets laid away for their children, and that they could get along until the sawmill sgain started up.

Husband and wife then retired; the latter went to sleep, but John could not. About midnight he arose, kissed his wife as she slept, as he did their children, wrote a note asking his wife not to worry about him, and to raise the children and to await his return home.

Nothing was heard of him by his wife or friends until hast night, when a well-dressed man waized into the same store that he had walked out of sieven years before. The stranger a-ked the direction of Mary Crim's residence, when her 12-year-old son stepped forward with the remark that he would show him his mother's house. This was more than Crim could stand, the cried like a labe as he clasped his boy to his breast, and almost carried him to his mother, who was hissy arranging a few presents for her children, and whose Joy at seeing her husband knew no bounds.

After their tears had been brusned away, John related his wanderings. He had been in British Columbia ten years engaged in mining, and had amassed a fortune. He has come home to remain with his family, and there is not a happer one in the world.

#### Luckiess Dec Watt of Mississippi From the De Kalb Press.

Dee Watt, who lives just over the Kemper line in Sunter county, is the most unlucky individual we have heard of in many moons. Last spring he had 100 head of fine hops and jour heaters of corn, and he began feeding them with the expectation of soon having a car load of fat perfects. car load of fat portiers to put on the market. Just about the time he was getting ready to ship, choiera broke out among them and all but twenty-six died. During one of the first cold spells we had he killed 1,500 pounds of those that escaped the choiera, and that spoiled. He is now minus his hogs and 1,000 bushels of corn.